



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

VIE ET OEUVRES DE J. J. ROUSSEAU avec des Notes Explicatives. By ALBERT SCHINZ, Professor of French Literature in Smith College. XI+382 pp. D. C. Heath & Co. 1921.

Thanks are due to Professor Schinz and to his publishers for bringing out the first extensive American edition of the life and works of Rousseau. Heretofore American students and teachers who wished to acquire some idea of the real nature of Rousseau's work, but lacked the time needed for study of the full original texts, have been forced to depend on French "Morceaux Choisis," not always easily obtainable or suitable. To be sure, Professor Gauss in his "Selections from the Works of Rousseau" (Princeton University Press, 1914) made a useful contribution, but after all a limited one. In the new volume the editor seems to have succeeded admirably in an adequate assembling of selections from all the major works without running to excessive length.

The editor has built up his work on the sound view that assumes the man or his life and his works to be too closely interdependent to lend themselves to separate treatment. In accord with this scheme the selections from the various works are presented in chronological order, preceded by and interwoven with necessary biographical matter, in such a way that when the end of the book is reached the reader or student has before him a clear record of the life, and a truly informative cross section of the writings of Jean-Jacques. For the biographical material the editor has made large use of the "Confessions," thus letting the man speak for himself, but supplementing this so well with other information that no gaps are left in the narrative.

The book is divided into four parts which treat the following general topics: *Enfance et Jeunesse*; *Les Premiers Ecrits*; *Les Grandes Oeuvres*; *Les Dernieres Années*. The last three parts contain selections from all the major writings and the length of the book permits these to be really satisfactory, not the mere slices without beginning or end that are so often found in "Morceaux Choisis." The editor has supplied careful and satisfactory introductory and informational material for the selections and, in the case of a long work like *La Nouvelle Héloïse*, for example, has filled in the gaps left between the selections so that the student has a good knowledge of the work as a whole. All these notes and additions as well as the foot notes are in French. These foot notes may be open to a bit of unfavorable criticism on the ground that they are not sufficiently numerous to supplement the lack of historical and geographical information so common to too many American students.

In the preface Professor Schinz states that his attitude toward Rousseau and his work is sympathetically objective, and lays down the dictum that "Critique signifie discernement, et non pas

blâme; et le novice en littérature doit être exercé à discerner sur-tout le beau." On these grounds he has chosen to dwell on the edifying sides of Rousseau's life and works, and pass by in silence the unedifying. At this time when there is so much violently hostile criticism of Rousseau and also so much misinterpretation of his doctrines, it is only fair to present the reverse of the medal. But it is a pleasure to see that Professor Schinz has done this without falling into the other pitfall of exalting the citizen of Geneva into a prophet whose precepts point the way to the millennium.

The closing pages of the book are devoted to a recital of the influence of Rousseau, contemporary and posthumous. Here the editor points out very justly that many people have blamed and do blame Rousseau as a disintegrating force in society by attributing to him much for which he is not responsible. The wish has been father to the thought, and because Rousseau held certain theories, others have been saddled upon him by those who champion them. The unfavorable criticism of Rousseauism by Professor Babbitt and Mr. P. E. More has been so violent that the reviewer feels Professor Schinz may have made a mistake in passing it by with a mere impersonal reference in his closing paragraph. After all, the editor must be credited with having held quite consistently to his announced intention of treating the question in objective fashion, and the text is really informational, not critical. The class or reader, unable to give time to the works *in toto*, can gain from this book an adequate knowledge on which to base later critical judgments.

The physical appearance of the text is excellent. The paper, printing, binding, proof-reading leave little to be desired. A few well chosen illustrations presenting Rousseau and his haunts add to the attractiveness of the volume.

In closing the reviewer ventures to suggest that there is a chance to bring out another volume of Rousseau that will fit in length and scope between those of Professor Schinz and of Professor Gauss. The latter has been mentioned. The drawback to the former is that it is too long to use in survey courses such as are given in most universities and colleges. For a course on the XVIIIth century it is admirable.

University of Iowa

CHARLES E. YOUNG

A LA MAISON FRANÇAISE. By LEOPOLD CARDON AND RAYMOND WEEKS. Silver, Burdett & Co. 1920. pp. 213.

A la Maison Française is the story of the experiences of two girls, students in the French House of the University of Wisconsin. At the head of this house is a Frenchwoman who figures occasionally in the conversations; and one of the members of the house is a French exchange student who takes frequent part in the dia-